

WILLIAMSBURG SPINNERS AND WEAVERS GUILD
P.O. BOX 2086
WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23187
March 2005

Meeting: Monday, March 21. 10:00 am (9:30 for social time) at the James City County Recreation Center, 5301 Longhill Road, Williamsburg. Treats will be provided by Pam (sweet) and Peggy C. (savory). Frankie and Ingrid will bring treats in April and Donna and Rosalie in May. We will all bring salads for the June meeting.

Programs, Workshops, Bashes

The next bash will be held on April from 10 am to 2 pm at . Bashes are held on the first Mondays of months. Charlotte will be hostess for May and Ingrid for June.

March 21 There will not be formal program. Instead we will have an extended Show and Tell. Please bring your show and tell items along with the details of how you made them. That is, what sett did you use, how did you make it, what was the pattern, what fiber did you use, and so forth. For knitters, please bring the equivalent information on your yours, gauge, needle size, etc. For spinners, we would like to hear the details of how you made your yarns. (And similar requests for other crafts that you would like to bring.)

March 21: At the March meeting a new challenge will be announced: Rosalie will distribute photos of sunsets to members (a different one to each) and ask everyone to make something using or adapting the colors in the photo. This challenge will be due in June.

In April the guild will dye silk caps on the lawn outside our meeting room. In May we will start planning a friendship coverlet. The June program will be a spinning party, with an emphasis on techniques for spinning unusual and exotic fibers. In July members will be asked to prepare and bring to the meeting examples of rugs made with "found" materials – scraps of fabric, old clothes, odds and ends of yarn, fiber, etc. Rosalie also announced that those interested in a study group on double weave should contact Pam.

Events outside our guild:

Daffodil Festival, Gloucester, Va., April 2.

Uncovering the Surface, Surface Design Association Conference, June 2-5, 2005, Kansas City, Missouri. See the SDA website at www surfacedesign.org. Workshops include Shibori, mud cloth, tapestry, lampas weaving, and Turkish felt rug making.

The Mid-Atlantic Fiber Association (MAFA) Conference will be held on July 12 – 17, 2005 at the National Conference Center in Lansdowne, Virginia. The theme will be

Officers:

President, Mary Ann Philyaw
Vice-President, Rosalie Brown
Secretary, Jerry Smith
Treasurer, Ingrid Kross

March birthdays: Peggy C.

WILLIAMSBURG SPINNERS AND WEAVERS GUILD
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF FEBRUARY 21, 2005

Mary Ann Philyaw called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and introduced two guests: Sandra Bauman and Nettie Cross. Nettie will also be joining our guild. Other members in attendance were: David Banks, Virginia Banks, Julie Colby, Selma Moore, Birdie Burton, Peggy Counce, Gladys Strong, Peggy Nacci, John Jansen, Jerry Smith, Pam Franck, Frankie Snipes, Ingrid Kross, Cindy Newcomb, Charlotte Headley, Jan Hart, Judith Mooers and Jane Gustafson.

Minutes of the last meeting were accepted as corrected and published.

Birdie, chair of the Sunshine committee, congratulated Ingrid on behalf of the guild for her daughter's being named to the Dean's List at VPI.

Julie, reporting for the Hospitality Committee, said everything was fine.

Cindy and Peggy reporting for the Library Committee thanked Gladys for donating a complete set of Spindle, Shuttle and Dyepot to the guild library.

Jan, the new guild historian, urged all members to bring to the meeting any and all materials (photos, thank you notes, newspaper articles – past and present) in any way relevant to the guild.

Jerry reported for the Scholarship Committee that to date no applications had been received for the 2005 scholarship. He reminded members that the deadline was March 1, next Tuesday, and suggested that those guild members who had nominated scholarship candidates contact them to remind them of the impending deadline.

Ingrid, treasurer, reported a balance of \$3137.37 in the guild's checking account.

Lou and Jane who served as auditors this year found the account in order. They did suggest that the treasurer prepare a monthly written report and submit this to the guild president. They also suggested that guidelines be set for each workshop, stating a date after which no refunds of deposits would be issued. Both recommendations were passed by the membership.

Mary Ann presented the 2005 guild budget as approved by the Board at its January meeting, and which will be published elsewhere in this newsletter.

Ingrid reported on preparations for the guild participation in the Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival, to be held this year in Hampton Feb. 24, 25 and 26. The guild will be conducting a sheep-to-shawl demonstration Friday and Saturday (the 25th and 26th) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Ingrid showed us a set of handsome canvas aprons monogrammed with "Williamsburg Spinners' and Weavers' Guild" which members will wear while giving the demonstration. If there is anyone who would like to participate and has not yet signed up, please contact Ingrid.

Mary Ann asked Pam to serve as membership chair. She will be in charge of bringing name tags to the meetings and for bringing up-to-date the posters announcing the guild, meeting place and time, etc. posted in the quilt shop, library, etc.

9 extra scarves from the December scarf exchange were raffled off among members. \$100.00 was collected and will be donated in the guild's name to F.I.S.H., a local clothing bank.

This month's program was an extended show-and-tell.

Mary Ann brought three of her favorite pieces: cotton dishtowels done with a 10/2 cotton in a shadow weave in teal and purple which created a striking iridescent effect. Though all were done on the same warp, each towel had a different design.

Pam showed us three of the prize-winning shawls which she had woven for the guild in past sheep-to-shawl competitions. They, as well as this past November's winner, were all in advancing twills. Lest anyone think, however, that only fancy weaves can be attractive, Pam also showed examples of scarves, blankets, etc. in plain weave in which she utilized texture, design and color to striking effect.

Jerry showed two scarves, also in an advancing twill, he had recently woven using 8/2 Tencel, which seemed to him to offer an attractive and very affordable alternative to silk.

Frankie reported on a felting workshop she had given for the International Women's Group at William and Mary. She has also been making some simple table looms for the next workshop she will be doing for the group.

John showed us some fine cotton placemats and napkins he had done in an 8-harness huck in a 20/2 cotton (36 e.p.i, 36 p.p.i.)

Jan brought her Archie Brennen tapestry loom to show us. Mary Ann has copies of the plans, for those interested, for this simple but very portable and effective loom

(copper pipes!), which, with a slight modification, could also be used for weaving smaller Navaho rugs. She also showed us some of her experiments in trying to achieve a 3-dimensional effect in her tapestry.

Julie showed us two items she had woven using a combination of wool and rayon yarn... One of them, a large shawl, was done in striking combinations of leno lace and plain weave.

Peggy, in addition to the socks she was wearing, showed us a beautiful, huge throw she had knitted using a combination of cotton yarns (fine, slubby and fringy).

Charlotte showed us a variety of handspun skeins, in natural colors of wool, alpaca and llama, as well as handspun, hand-dyed yarns. She explained that from over 10 years of attending various dyeing workshops she had assembled a large assortment of balls of yarns in all manner of colors. She decided to do something with them and knitted her rainbow vest, a marvelous sight to see. She also showed us a lacey shawl, using handspun mohair in both warp and weft (the Mannings said it couldn't be done!)

Judith showed us a knitted hooded sweater she had made out of handspun spacedyed merino superwash roving, as well as a sweater she is almost finished with out of a merino Tencel blend. She also showed us a lacey shawl knitted with her handspun two-ply yarn: grey alpaca/corvo and natural silk.

Gladys showed us some socks she had woven with a pre-dyed sock yarn. Result: colorful stripes of different widths going around the foot and ankle.

Jane made a very nice tam for Pam out of some handspun left over from November's sheep-to-shawl competition.

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Mary Ann called the meeting to order at 1:00. Other members in attendance were Jerry, Peggy C. and Jane. She asked about the guild's membership in the Mid-Atlantic Fiber Association. Jane said she was pretty sure the guild held a lifetime membership. Mary Ann said she would check on the status of the guild's membership in MAFA.

Mary Ann noted that a non-member who participated in the Celia Quinn spinning workshop last November still owed the guild the balance of her tuition (\$100.00). Gladys, who knows the individual, said she would mention this to her.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Smith

